

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03

H-02 EB-11 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 RSR-01

/077 W

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O P 101149 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2994

INFO AMCONSUL NAHA

SECDEF PRIORITY

JCS PRIORITY

CINCPAC PRIORITY

COMUSJAPAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 4330

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR JA

SUBJECT: FACILITIES RELOCATION CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

REF: A. CINCPAC 031940 Z APR 73

B. STATE 65416 DTG 092049 Z APR 73

SUMMARY: GOJ " UNIFIED VIEW" NOT RPT NOT EXPECTED
CREATE OBSTACLE FOR FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION AGREED
UPON JANUARY 23. FONOFF POINTS OUT THAT OHIRA STATE-
MENT WAS PROVIDED IN SPECIFIC CONTEXT AND CONTAINS
BUILT- IN ESCAPE CLAUSE FOR EXCEPTIONS. FONOFF HAS
REITERATED GOJ INTENTION TO CARRY OUT PROGRAM AS
AGREED UPON AND EXPLAINS THAT DFAA INQUIRY WAS NOT
RPT NOT FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISQUALIFYING ANY PROJECTS.
END SUMMARY.

1. GOJ UNIFIED VIEW REFERRED TO IN REF B WAS BRIEF
POLICY STATEMENT READ BY FONMIN OHIRA AT LOWER HOUSE
BUDGET COMMITTEE SESSION MARCH 13, IN RESPONSE TO
EARLIER REQUEST FROM JSP DIET MEMBER NARASAKI FOR
GOJ POLICY ON CONSTRUCTION OF REPLACEMENT FACILITIES.
ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL RECORD OF DIET, OHIRA SAID:
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QTE: CONCERNING INTERPRETATION OF SOFA ARTICLE 24, EXPLANATIONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN FROM TIME TO TIME IN THE PAST. THE GOVERNMENT WISHES, HOWEVER, TO STATE AT THIS TIME THAT, WITH RESPECT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ARTICLE, MEASURES TO BE TAKEN WILL NOT, IN PRINCIPLE, INCLUDE NEW CONSTRUCTION WHICH WILL EXCEED THE SCOPE (OF THE FACILITY) TO BE REPLACED. WITH REGARD TO FACILITIES AT IWAKUNI AND MISAWA, THE CONSOLIDATION PROGRAM WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN LINE WITH THE AFOREMENTIONED POSITION THROUGH DECISIONS OF THE US- GOJ JOINT COMMITTEE, UNQTE.

2. ACCORDING TO MASTUDA (HEAD, SECURITY DIVISION, FONOFF) WHO SAID THAT HE HAD WRITTEN THIS STATEMENT FOR OHIRA DURING BRIEF COMMITTEE RECESS, " UNIFIED VIEW" NOT RPT NOT EXPECTED PRESENT PROBLEMS IN CONNECTION WITH AGREED CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM. IN FIRST PLACE, STATEMENT WAS MADE IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR GOJ ASSURANCES THAT GOJ WOULD NOT RPT NOT INTERPRET ARTICLE 24 AS JUSTIFYING WHOLLY UNCONTROLLED EXPANSION US MILITARY FACILITIES IN JAPAN. IN SECOND PLACE, THE PHRASE " IN PRINCIPLE" WAS DELIBERATELY INSERTED IN STATEMENT TO SERVE AS ESCAPE CLAUSE TO PROVIDE GOJ NECESSARY LATITUDE TO CARRY OUT AGREED UPON PROJECTS AND ANY FURTHER PROJECTS WHOSE SIZE AND QUALITY MIGHT EXCEED THAT OF FACILITIES TO BE RELEASED. FURTHERMORE, IN RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC QUERY BY POL/ MIL COUNSELOR, MATSUDA CLARIFIED THAT IN EVENT THAT USG SHOULD MAKE REQUEST OF GOJ FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES THAT WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE REPLACEMENT OF FACILITIES, GOJ POSITION WOULD BE THAT OHIRA' S COMMENT RESPECTING STANDARD TO BE APPLIED FOR REPLACEMENT FACILITIES IS NOT RPT NOT PERTINENT AND THAT GOJ WOULD HAVE TO STUDY USG REQUEST ON ITS MERITS. MATSUDA REITERATED THAT GOJ POLICY OFFICIALS ARE FIRMLY COMMITTED TO CARRYING OUT JANUARY 23 AGREEMENT AND THAT FONOFF, NOT DFAA, IS FINAL INTERPRETER OF AGREEMENT. AS EXAMPLE OF GOJ INTENTIONS, MATSUDA POINTED OUT THAT FONMIN OHIRA STATED IN DIET APRIL 10 THAT GOJ WOULD CONSTRUCT FUTENMA OVERLAY AND RUNWAY EXTENSION DESPITE FACT THAT SUCH PROJECTS CANNOT BE CONSIDERED AS REPLACEMENT FOR EXISTING FACILITIES.

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3. WITH RESPECT SPECIFICALLY TO DFAA REQUEST TO ARMY
ENGINEER REP THAT HE IDENTIFY PROJECTS WHICH ARE
REPLACEMENTS FOR EXISTING FACILITIES AT NAHA, MATSUDA
SAID THAT DFAA PURPOSE WAS TO SEPARATE THOSE PROJECTS
WHICH CAN BE SO JUSTIFIED FROM OTHER PROJECTS IN PACKAGE
SO THAT GOJ COULD WORK UP SPECIAL JUSTIFICATION FOR
REMAINING PROJECTS.
INGERSOLL

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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